carry out construction etc. for approval. Notices are issued under Section 185 of the Act to such persons who undertake construction without proper sanction. The Cantonment Board authorities have not demolished any old houses in the vicinity.

(d) No provision exists either in the Building Bye-Laws of Morar Cantonment or the Cantonments Act, 1924 to sanction layout plan by the Cantonment Board.

**Increasing the strength of Rashtriya Rifles**

2409. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Qovernment has increased the strength of Rashtriya Rifles by adding 13 battalions to counter insurgents and check infiltration;

(b) whether residents of some villages along the borders are being shifted elsewhere;

(c) whether modern sophisticated weapons have been given to Rashtriya Rifles personnel to face infiltrations effectively; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) the strength of Rashtriya Rifles has been increased by 18 battalions since the year 2000-2001.

(b) There is no such proposal regarding the international border.

(c) and (d) Rashtriya Rifles has been provided with modern weapons and equipment like multi grenade launcher, hand held thermal imagers, counter-improvised explosive device etc. to improve the effectiveness of the force in countering infiltration from across the borders and in their counter insurgency role. Modernisation and force equipping is an ongoing process.

**Induction of TEJAS**

2410. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently TEJAS, developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency, has been tested successfully;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time frame has been fixed to induct this in the Indian Air-Force; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two Technology Demonstrators of Tejas have completed 96 flights for a duration of 48 hours, including a supersonic flights in the first week of August 2003:

(c) and (d) Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) of Tejas is planned by year 2006-2007 and Final Operational Clearance (FOC) by 2008-2009.

**Lack of Quality Medical Treatment**

2411. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NDMC employees have been facing a perennial problem of lack of quality medical treatment at Charak Palika Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that medicines are not available in that hospital despite budgetary provision of one crore rupee for the hospital; and

(c) the details of the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In order to further improve the functioning of the Hospital the New Delhi Municipal Council has plans to provide new machines in some critical areas for the benefit of the patients.